

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
29 January 2004 (29.01.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2004/009732 A1**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: C09K 17/00, C05F 11/00, 11/06

(74) Agent: FISHER ADAMS KELLY; Level 13, AMP Place, 10 Eagle Street, Brisbane, Queensland 4000 (AU).

(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/AU2003/000930

(22) International Filing Date: 22 July 2003 (22.07.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
2002950316 22 July 2002 (22.07.2002) AU

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): POL-  
WOOD AUSSIE BARK PTY LTD [AU/AU]; 1312  
Hervey Bay Road, MARYBOROUGH, Queensland 4650  
(AU).

(81) Designated States (*national*): AF, AG, AI, AM, AT, AU,  
AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU,  
CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH,  
GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC,  
LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW,  
MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC,  
SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA,  
UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM,  
KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW),  
Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),  
European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE,  
ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO,  
SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM,  
GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(72) Inventors; and

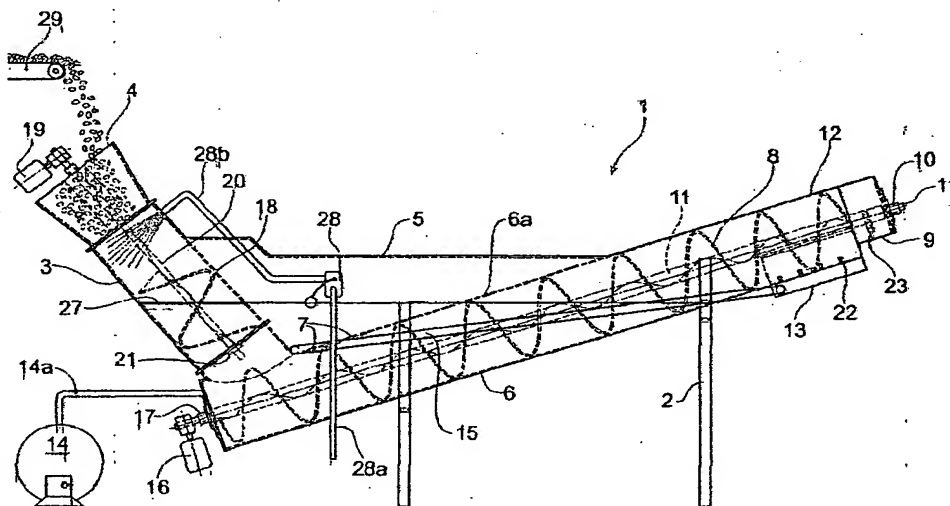
(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): RAMPTON, Lea  
[AU/AU]; 1312 Hervey Bay Road, Maryborough, Queens-  
land 4650 (AU). CONNICK, Mervyn [AU/AU]; 1370  
Hervey Bay Road, Dundathu, Maryborough, Queensland  
4650 (AU).

Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-  
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-  
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: PLANT GROWTH MEDIUM



(57) Abstract: An organic potting mix is produced from sawmill wastes comprising predominantly wastes from the pinus genus either alone or mixed with other organic waste materials by a continuous process wherein the sawmill waste feedstock is comminuted, submerged in heated water containing treatment chemicals and then at least partially dewatered to a moisture content of from 15% - 25% ww and a moisture capacity of about 50% ww. The potting mix so produced may be subjected to further comminution in an apparatus which applies mechanical shear under pressure to produce a peat moss alternative having an enhanced moisture capacity up to about 80% ww. An apparatus for the continuous production of the potting mix comprises a screw auger located in an inclined tubular body wherein the sawmill waste feedstock is submerged during travel from a lower end to an elevated dewatering end of said tubular body.

WO 2004/009732 A1